

RURAL DISTRICT OF DROXFORD

ANNUAL REPORT



OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

OF THE

RURAL DISTRICT OF DROXFORD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1940.

Eastleigh :

Eastleigh Printing Works, 26a, High Street, Eastleigh.

Rural District Council of Droxford

DROXFORD.

August, 1941.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Droxford Rural District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report upon the health of the District and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1940.

Section A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	62,772
Registrar General's estimate of resident population for 1940	19,890
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to rate books	5,141
Rateable value	£105,766
Sum represented by penny rate	£429 12s. 6d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The District is residential and agricultural, a considerable portion being laid out in estates (some of which are being split up) and residential properties.

Farming, small-holdings, poultry farming and extensive fruit-growing, together with the various occupations incidental to agriculture, constitute the principal means of livelihood of the population.

There are a few brickyards in the parishes of Bishop's Waltham, Swanmore, Durley, Soberton and Denmead where the suitable clay predominates.

SPECIAL ITEMS OF NOTE.

As this is a reception area the population has been considerably increased by evacuees and by H.M. Services personnel.

There is an increase over the Registrar General's estimate of 19,890 resident population for the year 1940.

The general health of the District continues to be good in spite of war conditions, and there has been little evidence of increase of illnesses due to general causes or infectious diseases.

The water supply has been generally satisfactory, outside water undertakings provide the bulk of water to the District, and this has always been wholesome and pure.

In the parishes outside the scope of these undertakings water is obtained chiefly from wells. In a number of instances these have been found unsatisfactory, and the Council were considering a scheme for a piped supply for the Parishes of Droxford and Soberton, but this matter has been temporarily postponed.

Sewage disposal and scavenging have not been satisfactory. Most of the District relies on cesspools, which are emptied out over farm lands. In the parts of the District where cleansing is carried out by the Council, it has become impossible to deal properly with cesspools for many reasons, the chief of which are, firstly, the increased number of people now living in houses for which the existing cesspools have become inadequate ; secondly, the fact that evacuees have usually been accustomed to unlimited supplies of water and sewerage facilities, and, in spite of advice to the contrary, continue to use water lavishly ; thirdly, the shortage of labour ; and, fourthly, the shortage of vehicles and inability to procure new machines.

The work of the Public Health Department has increased considerably through war conditions, which has resulted in an unavoidable drop in routine inspections.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	} Birth Rate per 1000 of the estim- ated population }	14.3
		284	138	146		
Live Births	Legitimate	265	129	136	}	
	Illegitimate	19	9	10		
		<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	} Rate per 1000 total Live and Still Births }	37.3
		11	6	5		
Still Births	Legitimate	10	6	4	}	
	Illegitimate	1	—	1		
Deaths	.....	289	155	134	} Death Rate per 1000 of the estim- ated population }	14.5

Corrected Death Rate 11.6 per 1000.

Death Rate for England and Wales 14.3 per 1000.

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.</i>
Puerperal Sepsis	None	None
Other Puerperal causes	None	None

Deaths of Infants under one year :—

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Total	6	9
Legitimate	4	9
Illegitimate	2	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1000 live births	52.8
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	49.1
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	105.3
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	None
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	None
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

CAUSES OF DEATH IN
THE DROXFORD RURAL DISTRICT, 1940.

All Causes : Males, 155 ; Females, 134.

Causes of Death :—

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	1
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	—
8. Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
9. Influenza	6	3
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyel and Polioenceph	—	—
12. Acute Infective Encephalitis	—	—
13. Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.), Uterus (F.)	3	3
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	3
15. Cancer of Breast	—	—
16. Cancer of all other sites	16	1
17. Diabetes	—	2
18. Intraeranian Vascular Lesions	18	18
19. Heart Disease	28	43
20. Other Disease of Circulatory System	4	3
21. Bronchitis	14	9
22. Pneumonia	6	4
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	7	2
24. Uleer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	—
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	—

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
26. Appendicitis	—	2
27. Other Digestive Diseases	4	2
28. Nephritis	2	7
29. Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31. Premature Birth	1	2
32. Congenital Malformation Birth inj. Infant Dis.	4	3
33. Suicide	2	—
34. Road Traffic Accidents	4	1
35. Other Violent Causes	7	3
36. All other Causes	20	22

Section B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

Public Health Officers—

- A. R. Graham, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.
H. Brooks, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector.
H. I. Spratt, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector.
E. J. Manuel, Clerical and General Assistant.

Laboratory Facilities—

The Hampshire County Council provide full facilities for Chemical and Bacteriological examinations.
Examinations are also carried out at the Emergency Laboratory :—
Winchester College, Kingsgate Street, Winchester.

Ambulance Facilities.

None were provided by the Local Authority. A.R.P. Ambulances were used in emergency.

Nursing in the Home.

The training and supervision of Midwives and District Nurses is organised by the Hampshire County Nurses' Association, 73, North Walls, Winchester. Tel. : Winchester 1502.

Hospitals.

As for 1939.

Tuberculosis Services.

Provided by the County Council.

Sanatoria at Bishopstoke and Chandler's Ford.

T.B. Dispensaries at—

Fareham—Methodist Church Hall Wed., 9.30—12.

Gosport—3, Clarence Square Mon., 9.30—12.

Havant—Park Way Thurs., 9.30—12.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The County Council provide the following Clinics :—

Maternity and Child Welfare—

Bishop's Waltham—Congregational Church Hall,

Lower Lane 1st and 3rd Fri., 2 p.m.

Droxford—Village Hall 2nd Mon., 2 p.m.

Hambledon—Women's Institute Hall 2nd Fri., 2 p.m.

Shedfield—Chase Hut, Waltham Chase 2nd and 4th Tues., 2 p.m.

Soberton—Rookesbury Hall 4th Mon., 2 p.m.

Wickham—Church Hall 1st and 3rd Wed., 2 p.m.

Ante-Natal—

Botley—The Catherine Wheel 1st and 3rd Tues., 2 p.m.

Fareham—Methodist Hall, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th

King Street Mon., 2 p.m.

Eye, Orthopaedic and Dental—as required.

The County Council are responsible for School Medical Inspections.

District Medical Officers and Public Vaccinators.

Dr. E. C. Pern, Droxford.

Dr. F. R. Corfe, Westmeon.

Dr. C. P. Hemming, Bishop's Waltham.

Dr. H. Attenborough, Wickham.

Vaccination Officer and Relieving Officer (Hants County Council) :

Mr. F. Rudd, Public Offices, Droxford.

Section C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Parishes of Bishop's Waltham, Curdridge, Curbridge and parts of Upham and Durley ; Denmead and Hambledon ; Shedfield, Swanmore, Wickham and part of Boarhunt are supplied by the Southampton County Borough, Portsmouth Water Company and Gosport Water Works Company respectively. The District Council has installed a scheme for a supply of water to Westmeon.

Five samples of water were taken during the year and submitted to the Laboratories for examination; one was found to be polluted.

The remaining parts of the District not within the statutory areas of the above water companies are supplied by wells, river water and underground rain water tanks.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There is no main drainage in the area, the general method of the disposal of sewage being the emptying of cesspools, which is a matter for private arrangement, excepting in the Parishes of Bishop's Waltham, Shedfield and Wickham, where the Council carry out the work of emptying cesspools and E.C. pails and the collection of house refuse. Owing to the increase of population extra strain has been thrown on the facilities for sewage disposal, with many complaints of nuisance resulting therefrom, the Council's appliances being inadequate to cope with the increased work. As stated previously, the cesspools have to cater for more than normal households, and more than they are designed for.

Rivers and Streams.

As for 1939.

Closet Accommodation.

Number of Privies	.....	1045
„ „ Pail Closets	.....	2370
„ „ Fresh Water Closets	.....	1980
„ „ Moveable Ashbins for Refuse	.....	1806

Public Cleansing.

Number of Cesspools emptied	.....	674
„ „ E.C. Pails emptied (Refuse Vehicle)	.....	20,157
„ „ E.C. Pails emptied (Cesspool Emptier)	.....	51,421
„ „ Ashbins emptied	.....	74,672

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

	No. of		Abatement Notices		Nuisances abated after Notice by		Notices on hand
	Inspections made	Defects found	Informal by Inspector	Formal by Authority	Inspector	Authority	
Dwelling Houses and Schools :							
Structural Defects.....	34	11	11	—	11	—	—
Overcrowding	3	3	3	—	3	—	—
Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cowsheds, Milkshops and Dairies	163	22	18	—	15	—	3
Bakehouses	46	1	1	—	1	—	—
Slaughterhouses and Knaekers Yards and Food Stores	179	24	24	—	24	—	—
Factories and Workshops (excluding Bakehouses)	105	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashpits, Privies, Cesspools, etc.	418	164	63	—	41	—	22
House Drainage	77	62	62	—	62	—	—
Water Supply	73	14	14	—	13	—	1
Animals improperly kept	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
Other Nuisances	3	3	3	—	3	—	—
Places of Public Entertainment (Cinemas, Public Halls etc.)	82	7	7	—	7	—	—
Total	1184	312	207	—	181	—	26

Complaints received	53
Seizure of Unwholesome Food	10
Water taken for Analysis	5
Condemned as unfit	1
Homes visited in connection with Infectious Disease.....	57
Homes disinfected after Infectious Disease	36
Schools disinfected after Infectious Disease	5

(1) *Shops and Offices.*

Thirty-five Shops were visited in this District which are mostly owner-occupied attended to by members of the family.

(2) *Camping Sites.*

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| (a) | The number of Sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1940 | 1 |
| (b) | The number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 | 1 |

(3) *Eradication of Bed Bugs.*

The number of Council houses found to be infested	—
Other houses found to be infested	—
Houses disinfected	—

Infested houses are freed from bed bugs by spraying with “Zaldeeide” and the use of sulphur candles.
The work of disinfection is carried out by contractor under supervision of the Local Authority.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

No action taken or needed.

Other Sanitary Conditions requiring Notice.

None.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the Schools in the District is fair, the water supply is a little difficult in villages where the Schools are supplied by wells, especially in the summer months.

During epidemics of Infectious Disease they are closed when necessary, scholars excluded from School and Schools disinfected if necessary.

Rag Flocks Acts, 1911 and 1938.

There are no premises on which Rag Flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

The District Council accepted delegation from the County Council under the above Act and during the year, under the “1d. per tail scheme”; 5,684 rats were accounted for; 103 visits were made to premises and Parish representatives.

HOUSING.

(a) *Statistics.*

1. *Inspections of Dwelling Houses during the Year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	34
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	132
(2) (a) Dwelling Houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Act, 1936	—
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	—
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	—

2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice :—*

Number of Defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	29
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

(A.) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	None
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	None
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	None

(B.) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	None
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	None
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	None

(C.) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made None

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders None

(D.) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate Tenements or Underground Rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made None

(2) Number of separate Tenements or Underground Rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit None

4. *Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding :—*

Owing to the number of evacuees and others, overcrowding exists fairly generally throughout the area. As the number is continually on the change, it is not possible to keep accurate records, and consequently no action has been taken. Where possible steps were taken to relieve overcrowding.

Section E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply.*

At the end of the year there were 302 Cowkeepers, etc., registered. Most of the milk produced in the district is sold wholesale. About 10 per cent. retail within the district.

There are about 3,700 milch cows in the district, and 163 visits were made to Cowsheds and Dairies.

(b) *Meat and Other Foods.*

One hundred and seventy-nine visits were made to Slaughterhouses and Knaekers' Yards and Food Stores during the year, and the following meat was condemned :—

One pig, one calf, one sheep, 652-lbs. of beef, 22-lbs. of bacon, 12-lbs. of Yorkshire roll, 44-lbs. of butter, and sundry offals.

(c) *Butchers' Shops, Fishmongers, Fried Fish Shops and Butchers' Small Goods.*

Manufacturers' Premises were periodically visited.

(d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.*

Carried out by the County Analyst under the County Council.
Nature of work done, see above.

*Section F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.*

There were 19 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, 18 of which were sent to Isolation Hospital. The remaining case was isolated at home, and the premises disinfected afterwards.—No deaths.

There were four cases of Diphtheria notified, three of which were sent to Isolation Hospital. The remaining case was isolated at home and the premises disinfected afterwards. The contacts were swabbed.—No deaths.

Diphtheria Immunization is carried out free of charge for children in this area. The inoculation consists of two injections of A.P.T. vaccine. The injections are given by private practitioners to whom the material is supplied from my office. All fees are paid by the District Council.

Three cases of Enteric Fever were notified, which were treated in Hospital.

Three cases of Erysipelas were notified.

Malaria.—No case.

There were two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified.—No deaths.

There were no deaths from other Puerperal Diseases.

Bacteriological aids to diagnosis are used when necessary. The specimens are sent to the County Laboratory at Winchester, who carry out the examinations, free of cost, outfits being supplied free. The report is sent direct to the medical practitioner sending the specimens (and if positive, at the same time a copy of the report is sent to me) and a similar outfit is returned with the report.

There is no Isolation Hospital in the District.

The District Council have made arrangements with the Alton Council and Fareham Urban District Council to take cases into their Isolation Hospitals.

44 children were immunized against Diphtheria during the year.

The Head Teachers of the Schools notify the County Medical Officer and myself of any cases of infectious disease coming to their notice. Children who are contacts are excluded from school.

There are no facilities available in the District for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings. Such persons are supplied with printed instructions relating to methods for cleansing and disinfection. If such cases are admitted to the Poor Law Institution they are dealt with there.

There were 28 deaths from Cancer during the year, the cases going to the several Hospitals supplying the needs of the District.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN
TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1940.

	<i>Total Cases Notified.</i>	<i>Cases Admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	19	18	—
Diphtheria	4	3	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	3	3	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—
Pneumonia	23	—	10
Measles	35	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Infantile Paralysis	—	—	—

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Two cases were notified, treated at home. vision was unimpaired.

TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Mortality during 1940.

<i>Age Periods.</i>	<i>New Cases.</i>				<i>Deaths.</i>			
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
0	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25	4	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
35	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
45	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	3	5	1	—	3	2	—

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
A. R. GRAHAM,
*Medical Officer of Health to the
Droxford Rural District Council.*
August, 1941.

